



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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## ***SBA SELECTS 10 REGIONAL MINORITY FIRMS TO RECEIVE SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS***

**WASHINGTON** –Ten outstanding minority-owned businesses are slated to receive the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) prestigious Minority Small Business Persons of the Year award for their superior achievements in the marketplace during Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week, SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez announced today.

President Clinton has declared the week of September 24 through September 30, 2000, as MED Week. In his proclamation, the President urged all Americans to join together in honoring minority entrepreneurs across the country in appropriate observances.

**"During Minority Enterprise Development Week, let us reaffirm our national commitment to equality in the economic as well as the civic life of our Nation by providing minority entrepreneurs around the country with an equal opportunity to use their abilities, creativity, and motivation to move our Nation forward. By doing so, we will help preserve America's leadership in the global economy,"** said President Clinton.

This month, the SBA will join the Department of Commerce in cosponsoring the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Conference.

**"The SBA recognizes the important role that minority businesses continue to play in these times of unprecedented economic growth, technological innovation and job creation,"** Administrator Alvarez said. **"MED Week celebrates and recognizes those successful business owners who contribute significantly to our Nation's economy and work force. This conference will equip potential business owners with the tools to become successful entrepreneurs."**

The MED Week Conference is scheduled to take place on September 24-27, 2000, at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, VA. The conference's theme is ***"New Horizons: The Emerging Minority Marketplace."*** Conference topics include the purchasing power of minority communities, how to gain access to capital and how to become more e-Commerce savvy. The conference will also provide opportunities to network at the MED Week 2000 Business Expo. Finally, there will be award ceremonies to honor minority entrepreneurs, minority business advocates and leaders in the corporate community.

The 10 recipients of the Regional Minority Small Business Persons of the Year award hail from various parts of the country. They are expected to attend the National MED Week conference to be honored during the awards gala's closing ceremony. The honorees will be recognized for their dedication and commitment to excellence.

The 10 Regional Minority Small Business Persons of the Year are:

**REGION I**

Ms. Yolanda Zambrano  
President  
Alpha Travel Agency  
Worcester, MA

**REGION II**

Mr. Ronald E. Wilson  
President  
Dartnell Enterprises, Inc.  
E. Rochester, NY

**REGION III**

Ms. Jacqueline W. Sales  
President  
HAZMED, Inc.  
Lanham, MD

**REGION IV**

Ms. Margie Lewis  
President  
Parallax, Inc.  
Atlanta, GA

**REGION V**

Ms. Angela F. Vlahos  
President  
Business Technologies and Solutions, Inc.  
Beavercreek, OH

**REGION VI**

Ms. Vivian Spurlock  
President  
DSS Services, Inc.  
San Antonio, TX

**REGION VII**

Mr. R. Douglas McKinzie  
President  
McKinzie Construction, Inc.  
Olathe, KS

**REGION VIII**

Mr. Chad S. DuBois  
President  
CS DuBois Construction, Inc.  
West Fargo, ND

**REGION IX**

Ms. Ruby L. Caffrey  
President  
SMF Systems Corporation  
San Ramon, CA

**REGION X**

Ms. Yuimusa Smith  
President  
SMK Construction Company, Inc.  
Spokane, WA

For more information, contact the MED Week 2000 Office at 1-877 MED WEEK or visit the Web site at [www.medweek.gov](http://www.medweek.gov).

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